

To the Honorable FCC Commissioners:

I write you today in protest of the recent petition filed by the National Association of Broadcasters, #04-160, regarding satellite radio and "local" programming. I am an XM Satellite Radio subscriber. The variety of programming offered by XM is truly amazing. I am surprised to learn that XM's offering of local traffic and weather reports are coming into question.

While I am not privy to all the legal arguments surrounding this issue, I can certainly offer you an example of why I believe this is a useful service offered to XM's subscribers. I am from the DC area. My family and I recently traveled to the mid-west. On the way, we were able to check and confirm what the weather and traffic situations were in Saint Louis hours before we arrived there. If conditions warranted, we would have altered our route. I did not know the local AM stations to check the weather and traffic beforehand. But I could with XM's offering.

As you know, satellite radio offers a wide variety of programming, with surprisingly clear reception. But, in this case, most importantly, it's available around the entire United States. If I want to drive from DC to LA and listen to one station, I can. It is this comprehensiveness that truly makes it a unique product, and one that I am happy to pay the monthly subscription for.

You have ruled in the past regarding cable and satellite television's need to offer local television programming. Ironically, now comes a call to disallow satellite radio from offering local programming. Please reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and to support satellite radio's ability to provide the kind of programming that I pay for, and deserve.

Thank you.